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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/560,120	12/08/2005	Dieter Glockler	KHA0002	2776
832	7590	10/10/2007	EXAMINER	
BAKER & DANIELS LLP			HO, HA DINH	
111 E. WAYNE STREET			ART UNIT	
SUITE 800			PAPER NUMBER	
FORT WAYNE, IN 46802			3681	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			10/10/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/560,120	Applicant(s) GLOCKLER, DIETER	
	Examiner Ha D. Ho	Art Unit 3681	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 December 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 December 2005 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/8/05</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is the first Office Action on the merits of Application No. 10/560,120 filed on 12/08/05. Claims 1-29 are currently pending.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because the following two reference characters have both been used to designate the same element:

- “1” and “2” (Fig. 1);
- “5” and “6” (Fig. 1);
- “9” and “11” (Fig. 1);
- “10” and “12” (Fig. 1);
- “16” and “26” (Fig. 1);
- “17” and “28” (Fig. 1);
- “39” and “19” (Fig. 1);
- “40” and “20” (Fig. 1);
- “9” and “11” (Fig. 2);
- “10” and “12” (Fig. 2);
- “43” and “44” (Fig. 2); and
- “17” and “27” (Fig. 5).

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing

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sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

3. The drawings are objected to because the lines, numbers, and letters are not clean, plain and legible, and/or uniformly thick and well-defined. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

4. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

5. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because of:

- exceeding 150 words in length, and
- using the implied phrases, i.e., "The invention concerns" (line 1), "The inventive modular unit further comprises" (line 7), and "The invention is" (line 8).

Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

6. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

- lacking of section headings; and
- making reference to claim (page 5, line 2).

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

7. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

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8. Claims 1-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Claim 1 recites “a first shaft of the first superimposed gear in connected in a torque-proof manner with the box input.” It is understood a connection of two elements in a **torque-proof** manner is the connection that is able to resist or repel torque from one element to the other and/or torque could not transmit from one element to the other. As shown in Fig. 1, the first shaft 13 of the first superimposed gear 9 is continuously connected with the box input E, and of course torque can be transmitted from the box input E to the first shaft 13. There is a conflict between the disclosure and the claims. It is unclear as to what type of the connection is considered as “a torque-proof manner” between the first shaft and the box input. Similarly, “torque-proof” is recited in claims 1 (line 7), 2, 10-13 and 19.

9. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

10. Claims 1-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

a. The following limitations lack antecedent basis:

- “the individual shafts” (claim 1, line 6),
- “the elements” (claim 1, line 7),

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- “the couplings” (claim 1, line 16),
- “the individual superimposed gears” (claim 1, line 6),
- “the individual linking gear” (claim 3, line 2),
- “the individual linking gear” (claim 4, line 2),
- “the individual linking gears” (claim 5, lines 2-3),
- “the theoretical maximum” (claim 7, line 4),
- “the traction mechanism” (claim 14, line 3),
- “the non-slip coupling” (claim 15, line 2),
- “the traction mechanism” (claim 15, line 3),
- “the means for equalizing” (claim 16, line 2),
- “the traction mechanism” (claim 16, lines 2-3 and line 5),
- “the traction mechanism” (claim 17, line 2),
- “the box input shaft” (claim 18, lines 2-3),
- “the traction mechanism” (claim 18, line 3),
- “the disk arrangement” (claim 18, line 4),
- “the box input shaft” (claim 19, line 3),
- “the traction mechanism” (claim 19, line 4),
- “the individual disk arrangements” (claim 20, line 4),
- “the individual disk arrangements” (claim 21, line 4), and
- “the input” (claim 22, line 2).

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- b. Claim 9 recited "the hollow wheel" in the last line. It is unclear of the reference of "the hollow wheel" since there is a hollow wheel in each of the two superimposed gears.
- c. In claim 21, line 4, the term "preferably" renders the claim indefinite since the resulting claim does not clearly set forth the metes and bounds of the patent protection desired. One could not tell from such a claim if the narrower range or limitation is a restriction or limitation on the broader range or limitation.
- d. Claim 24 recited "the means" in line 2. It is unclear of the reference of "the means" since there are means for controlling (in claim 1) and means for reversing (in claim 23).

Cited Prior Art

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: Hofbauer et al'394, Koneda et al'428, and Tanuguchi et al'895 which each shows a transmission including a CVT and a plurality of planetary gear sets.

Communication

12. Submission of your response by facsimile transmission is encouraged. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are **(571) 273-8300**. Recognizing the fact that reducing cycle time in the processing and examination of patent applications will effectively increase a patent's term, it is to your benefit to submit responses by facsimile transmission whenever permissible. Such submission will place the response directly in our examining group's hands and will eliminate Post Office processing and delivery time as well as the PTO's mail room processing and delivery time. For a complete list of correspondence not permitted by facsimile transmission, see M.P.E.P. 502.01. In general, most responses and/or amendments not requiring a fee, as well as those requiring a fee but charging such fee to a deposit account, can be submitted by facsimile transmission. Responses requiring a fee which applicant is paying by check should not be submitting by facsimile transmission

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separately from the check. Responses submitted by facsimile transmission should include a Certificate of Transmission (M.P.E.P.. 512). The following is an example of the format the certification might take:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to
the Patent and Trademark Office on _____

(Date)

Typed or printed name of person signing this certificate:

(Signature)

If your response is submitted by facsimile transmission, you are hereby reminded that the original should be retained as evidence of authenticity (37 CFR 1.4 and M.P.E.P.. 502.02). Please do not separately mail the original or another copy unless required by the Patent and Trademark Office. Submission of the original response or a follow-up copy of the response after your response has been transmitted by facsimile will only cause further unnecessary delays in the processing of your application; duplicate responses where fees are charged to a deposit account may result in those fees being charged twice.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ha D. Ho whose telephone number is **571-272-7091**. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Marmor can be reached on **571-272-7095**.

13. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/HDH/
(571) 272-7091
October 4, 2007

/Ha D. Ho/
Primary Examiner, A.U. 3681